

County of Fresno

Solid Waste Quarterly

A County-Wide Approach to Waste Management

Fresno County Awarded Hazardous Waste Grant

Fresno County was recently awarded a \$300,000 grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to establish a permanent facility for the disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) for County residents. The County of Fresno was one of 16 counties throughout the state to receive a grant from the CIWMB, which is part of the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, better known as Assembly Bill 939, mandates that each city and county throughout California establish a program to properly dispose of HHW. The County, through the Planning & Resource Management Department (Resources Division), has been administering a program of semi-annual drop-off events since 1994. These events are offered on a regional basis for the 15

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incorporated cities in the County and the unincorporated areas. Since the semi-annual drop-off events began, 1,132,599 pounds of HHW have been safely disposed of in Fresno County. With the addition of a permanent hazardous waste facility, County residents will be better served by being able to dispose of toxic chemicals year round, rather than just twice a year. The target date for the facility to be operational is July 2003. For questions about the permanent facility, please call Natalya Anfilofyeva at 262-4259 or e-mail nanfilofyeva@fresno.ca.gov.



Recycle Ben Says . . .

With vacation time over for many individuals, it's back to a normal school and work schedule. This is a good time to take a personal inventory on the ways that you create and dispose of your everyday trash. Recycling, of course, is a good disposal option, and I commend those of you who either use curbside programs or take recyclables to a recycling company. But how about the trash that you're making? Are there techniques that you can use to create less trash? See if you can answer

"yes" to any of the following questions:

- Do you buy in bulk or economy-size rather than individually sized servings?
- Do you buy durable rather than single-use items, such as an electric razor versus a disposable one?
- Do you save vegetable peels, eggshells, and coffee grounds for your compost pile? (How about starting a compost pile if you don't have one!)
- When you pack a lunch, do you use a reusable lunch bag or pail, washable containers for entrees, snacks, and fruit, a thermos for your drink, and a cloth napkin? (That's the formula for a no-waste lunch!)
- At work, do you keep a plastic or ceramic plate, washable mug or glass, and reusable utensils on hand for lunch and office goodies?

If you could answer "yes" to just one question, you are helping to send less garbage to our landfills. If not, try to incorporate at least one idea into your daily activities, and it will make a difference. For more waste prevention ideas, please call Susan Schneider at 262-4259 or e-mail sschneider@fresno.ca.gov.

RMDZ Program

Congratulations to Paper, Pulp & Film, Inc. of Fresno. This paper converter company was recently awarded a \$392,000 Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) loan from the CIWMB. The company plans to use recycled-content paperboard as a



feedstock to manufacture their packing products. The loan will go towards purchasing equipment and machinery and to expand their existing facility. By using this new manufacturing process, the company estimates that it will divert 27,000 tons of material from the landfill annually, up from 16,000 tons. For more information on the RMDZ loan program, please call Leslie Kline at 262-4259 or e-mail lkline@fresno.ca.gov.

Business Waste Assessment Program

Appointments are now being scheduled for a free waste assessment for businesses located in Fresno County (outside of the Fresno metropolitan area.) The purpose of the waste assessment is to evaluate disposal methods and to develop recommendations for managing trash in a cost-effective way. Business operations that are evaluated include work

activities, identification of disposal items, current disposal methods, monthly waste tonnages generated, etc. The assessments are non-regulatory in nature, and businesses are not required to implement any of the recommendations that result from the assessment. To date, Resources staff have scheduled assessments for governmental offices in the City of Selma and for a campground in Fresno County. If you would like to schedule an assessment, refer a business for the service, or need more information, please call Sharon Loving at 262-4259 or you can e-mail her at sloving@fresno.ca.gov.



Tire Grants Available

The CIWMB has allocated more than \$1million in grant funds for the clean up of waste tires during fiscal year 2001-02. Applications will be accepted until November 20, 2001 for grants awarded in January 2002, and February 28, 2002 for grants awarded in April 2002. For more information on eligibility, funding restrictions and a downloadable application, visit the CIWMB's website at www.ciwmb.ca.gov/tires/grants/.

Used Oil Recycling Program



Public Education Campaign Underway – Fresno County and its participating cities are continuing their ongoing public education campaign to promote awareness of used oil and filter recycling and to advertise the

certified collection centers located throughout Fresno County. All through the summer commercials are being aired on the local ESPN radio station during the S.F. Giants baseball games. Beginning in September additional commercials targeting the do-it-yourselfer will be aired on five more radio stations (MEGA 97.9, KISS Country, STAR 101, Super Q, and KGST – La Mexicana) and on one TV station (Channel 47) for a two- to three-month period. Two of the radio stations are Spanish language stations, which will run the ads in Spanish. The public education campaign will also include advertisements in the newspaper, on billboards,

and on theater screens. It is hoped that through an ongoing advertising campaign using a number of different mediums, people who change their own oil will be encouraged to recycle their own motor oil.

Used Oil Collection On The Rise -- The amount of used motor oil collected from the public through the three types of collection alternatives (certified collection centers, temporary collection events, and residential curbside collection) continues to increase dramatically in Fresno County. During the period July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001, approximately 129,592 gallons of used motor oil were collected. This represents a 15% increase over the previous 12 months and a 45.5% increase over the last four years!! Much of this success can be attributed to the ongoing public education program mentioned above. For questions pertaining to the Used Oil Recycling Program, call Don Chapin at 262-4259 or e-mail dchapin@fresno.ca.gov.

Mark Your Calendars



September 18, 2001. Pollution Prevention Fair, Fresno City Hall, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 498-1343.

September 25, 2001. Central California Women's Conference, Fresno Convention Center. 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$65. Call 265-6888 for details.

October 26/27, 2001. Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Event. Small businesses: Fresno site only, October 26, fee required. Households: sites in Fresno, Reedley, and Auberry, October 27, free. Call 262-4259 for reservation information.

The "Solid Waste Quarterly" is produced by the County of Fresno Planning & Resource Management Department, Resources Division, to provide information about issues related to AB 939, the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989. The Resources Division is located at 2220 Tulare Street, 6th Floor, Fresno, CA 93721. Please visit our web site at www.fresno.ca.gov.